



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Minutes 03/17/2010

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30PM O'Neill Room Community Safety Building
 3/17/10

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan		Bayer*	Phelps*	Dunn*
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Olszewski*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Deshler*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning	Carman*	Turkall*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Town Manager Brian Sullivan, Selectman Diane Mahon, Public Wrks Director John Bean, Michael Quinn

MINUTES of 3/15 approved as printed. Unanimous

ART 37 COMPENSATION OF SELECTMEN: Mahon, referring to a letter from the Town Counsel received earlier, said that she doesn't think Selectmen should have access to the Town's health insurance. She noted that neither she nor 2 other current board members use the Town's health insurance though most other former board members do. Her plan would apply only to newly elected members. She does not think lack of health insurance would discourage people from serving. She will review with Town Counsel the accounting details involved in substituting an expense account of the same value for the present stipend.

TOWN MANAGER ARTICLES

STM ART 3 APPROPRIATION & BUDGET TRANSFERS: Sullivan said this article is currently unnecessary since no 9c cuts are being discussed.

VOTED No action. Unanimous.

STM ART 5 COMMUNITY SAFETY BLDG Leaks in walls have caused mold. Repairs estimated at \$10 to \$15k.

ART 47 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: Sullivan has reached agreement for FY 10 w/ the Ranking Officers on the same terms as the other unions, a 2.5% increase. This is already funded by previous Town Meeting future collective bargaining votes. Sullivan will provide wording for the vote. He has reached no agreements for FY 11. He is offering no COLAs. VOTED no action. Unanimous.

ART 49 ELECTED OFFICERS: VOTED no action. Unanimous.

ART 51 VACATION CARRYOVER: Tosti read his proposed wording previously provided to members by email and reviewed by both Personnel & Legal. Sullivan accepted it. In later discussion, a proposal was made to change the

cutoff date from 4/30 to 6/30. This was defeated 6-11. VOTED to accept Tosti's wording unanimously.

ART 55 SEWERS: Bean reviewed the sewer renovation plan. The town is divided into 12 districts, each to be renovated in a year. So far 4 districts have been investigated and plans have been drawn up for 3. This will be funded by a loan from the MWRA and is included in the capital plan. VOTED \$650k. Unanimous.

ART 66 WATER: Bean stated there is also a plan to renovate the water mains. The oldest will be done first. The progress on this project is behind schedule. Bean hopes to get caught up in 3 years. Water rates will cover this plan. The work will be coordinated with the Mass Ave project. The project, also in the capital plan, will also be funded by a MWRA loan. VOTED \$1,300k. Unanimous.

ART 64 DALLIN AREA SIDEWALKS: Bean described the results of the negotiations with abutters. The work will be done using a pilot program grant suggested by TAC under Safe Routes To School. VOTED \$400k Unanimous. Jones to draft a comment.

ART 71 TREES: Bean plans to plant 3 trees near the top of the bank at the end of the existing line. Then he plans to plant 4 more each year starting at the base of the slope and covering the riprap.

ART 58 MM BOND: Sullivan stated that the student body at MM is too small by half for the size of the building. He suggested that the school find means to grow before any money is spent on renovation.

ART 61 MISCELLANEOUS: Sullivan confirmed \$0 Legal Defense Fund, \$3000 out of state travel, \$13,337 indemnification of medical costs for retired officers. VOTED \$16,337 Unanimous.

ART 65,66,67 COA Waiting for mtg of SubCom with COA.

REVENUE ESTIMATES: Sullivan provided a recommended lists of restorations to the budget book based on the Governor's budget and the 4% rumored legislature reductions. He defended apportioning the new revenue estimate so the compare to FY10, the school increase would be 1.7% and the Town would see a reduction of 1.1%. He provided a spread sheet and table detailing his allocations

ART 20 PAYT: Sullivan, using a 25 page presentation handout, described the study he led and the resulting recommended plan. He recommends using \$0.50 bags (and smaller \$0.30 bags) sold to residents at local stores. This is expected to save \$417k in reduced collection and disposal costs and be paid for by \$210k in bag receipts. on an annual basis. The net benefit to the solid waste program is \$577k. In response to questions, Sullivan stated that the \$25/year to a resident who recycles efficiently is little more than the cost of buying black bags as many now do.

UNION NEGOTIATIONS: Sullivan stated the teacher's union so far has refused to negotiate on joining GIC.

ART 29,30,31,32 PARMENTER & CROSBY SCHOOLS: Sullivan thinks the Town should not be in the real estate business. He would like to sell both buildings to the current residents, two of which are interested. The proceeds, \$2m to \$3m would be used to help pay to renovate Thompson (estimated to cost \$20m).

COMMITTEE:

Members received the final Warrant which included the Special Town Meeting articles.
A free ATFC workshop is available on pension funding on 4/29 5:30 to 7:00PM in Lancaster. Register at MMA website.
The agenda for past & future meetings may be found at www.arlingtonma.gov/fincom

RESERVE FUND BALANCE \$508,915.92

Peter B Howard 3/16/10 revised 3/24/10
cc FinCom Members, Selectmen, Town Manager, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site
VOTE SUMMARY – Articles

# 2/10	#	#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Status (Unlisted votes were unanimous)
20			PAYT	3/17	3/17	
24			Tax Checkoff for CoA Transportation	2/24	3/1	No report
26			Double Pole Home Rule Legis			request Manager
28			Pension Liability Funding			request Manager
29			Transfer Crosby	3/17		
30			Transfer Parmenter	3/17		
31			Sell Crosby	3/17		
32			Sell Parmenter	3/17		
33			Accept Law Consolidate Twn & Sch Admin			Reorg Com in April
34			Consolidate Twn & Sch Admin			Reorg Com in April
36			Dog Control	3/1		
37			Compensation of Selectmen	3/17		
39			Addtional Warrant Article notification	3/1		No report
47			Collective Bargaining	3/17	3/17	No action
48			Future Collective Bargaining			
49			Salary Adjustment Elected Officials	3/17	3/17	No action
50			Positions Reclassification			
51			Vacation Time Bylaw	3/17	3/17	Support
52			Budgets	NA	NA	See next page
53			Capital Budget	3/15	3/15	\$7,959,673
54			Rescind authority to borrow			
55			Sewers	3/17	3/17	\$650,000
56			Water	3/17	3/17	\$1,300,000
57			Minuteman Tech	2/22		
58			Minuteman Tech Bond Authorization	2/22, 3/17		
59			Committees & Commissions	2/17, 3/1	2/17, 3/1	\$14,760, \$5000 for ARC
60			Celebrations			
61			Misc Appropriations	3/17	3/17	\$13,337
62			Scholarship Fund Expenses			
63			Pension Adjustment			
64			Safe Routes to School	3/17	3/17	\$400,000
65			Harry Barber Service Program	2/24		HumServ SubCom
66			Minuteman Senior Services	2/24		HumServ SubCom
67			Social Worker	2/24		HumServ SubCom

68	Traffic Supervisors	2/24	2/24	No action
69	Water Bodies	2/17	2/17	\$15,000
70	Uncle Sam	2/17	3/1	No action
71	Restore Trees	2/17	3/1, 3/17	No action, Desheler comment
72	Local Option Taxes			
73	OPEB			
74	Tip Fee Stab Fund			
75	Transfer of Cemetery Funds			
76	Overlay Reserve			
77	Stabilization Fund			
78	Free Cash			
STM3	FY10 Appropriations & Budget Transfers	3/17	3/17	No action
STM4	Fire Station Renovation	3/15	3/15	\$4,950,000
STM5	Community Safety Renovations	3/15		

VOTE SUMMARY-Budgets

#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Amount	Vote Unlisted votes were unanimous
1	FinCom	2/22	2/22	10,988	
2	Board of Selectmen				
3	Town Manager	3/8	3/8	417,916	
4	Personnel	3/15	3/15	\$177,896	
5	Information Technology	2/22	2/22	491,878	
6	Comptroller	2/22	2/22	399,044	
7	Treasurer				
8	Postage				
9	Assessors				
10	Legal	3/1	3/1	409,316	
11	Town Clerk	3/8	3/8	234,810	
12	Registrar of Voters	3/8	3/8	59,873	
13	Parking				
14	Planning	3/8	3/8	231,352	
15	Redevelopment Board	3/8	3/8	270,454	
16	Zoning Board of Appeals	2/24	2/24	23,890	
17	Public Works				
17g	Street Lights	3/8	3/8	418,893	
18a	Community Safety Admin				
18b	Police				

18c	Fire	3/1	3/1	5,463,081	15-1
18d	Support				
19	Inspections	3/8	3/8	367,894	
20	Education				
21	Library	2/22	2/22	1,888,852	12-1
22a	Health & Human Services				
22b	Veterans	3/15	3/15	326,568	
22c	COA	3/15			
23	Retirement	3/8	3/8	7,003,065	
24	Insurance				
25	Reserve Fund				=
W&S EF	Rev 16383255 Exp 16383255				
Rec EF	Rev 600,500, Exp 597,132				
Rnk EF	Rev 567,000, Exp 560,267				
COA EF	Rev 115136, Exp 111133				
Youth EF	Rev 85000, Exp 403494				